Recommendations of Seminar organised by the Gandhi Vidya Mandir

4068. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a report on Rural Education from the Experts who participated in a three day Seminar organised by the Gandhi Vidyamandir;

(b) if so, what are the main contents of those recommendations;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to have rural Universities in the country as per the recommendations of Expert Committee; and

(d) if so, what would be the objectives of such Universities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE, IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The National Policy on Education, *inter-alia*, states that the new pattern of the rural university will be consolidated and developed on the lines of Mahatma Gandhi's revolutionary ideas on education so as to take up the challenges of micro-planning at grass root levels for the transformation of rural areas. For the implementation of the policy directive on rural universities/institutes, the Programme of Action envisages the establishment of Central Council of Rural Institutes for the formulation and implementation of a well-coordinated programme of development of rural institutes. Action has been initiated for the formulation of a detailed scheme for the development of rural institutes and the establishment of the proposed Central Council of Rural Institutes for the Implementation of the programme.

Declaration of Roads as National Highways in Orissa

4069. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Transport Policy Committee has recommended Barampur-Raipur and Balasore- Kharagpur Roads for declaration as National Highways in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Owing to limitation of resources under the Central Sector Roads programme in the 7th (1985—90) Plan and other priority considerations, it is not possible at present to include these two roads in question in the National Highways network.

Bansapani-Daitari Rail Line

4070. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what progress has been made so far, regarding Bansapani-Daitari Rail line under South Estern Railway;

(b) what was the estimated cost of this project and what amount has been spent so far;

(c) what is the total amount required for completion of the project;

(d) what provision has been made during the current financial year; and

(e) by when the line is expected to be completed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Construction of Banspani-Daitari rail link has not been taken up.

(b) and (c) The estimated cost of construction of this rail link is Rs. 115 crore. No expenditure has so far been incurred.